

## THE TRANSFIGURATION OF OUR LORD

Who Is Jesus?

February 14 & 15, 2015

### AS WE GATHER

On the Feast of the Transfiguration of Our Lord, we are invited by Jesus to join Peter, James, and John ascending the mountain. There we behold the Lord revealed in the brightness of the glory of God with Moses (standing for the Law) and Elijah (standing for the Prophets). Here, as we turn toward the Lord Jesus, the veil of blindness is removed. By His presence and Gospel, “we all, with unveiled face, beholding the glory of the Lord, are being transformed into the same image from one degree of glory to another” (2 *Corinthians 3:18*).

### WELCOME

#### MINISTRY MOMENT – Outreach Team

Jesus said, “I am the light of the world.  
Whoever follows me will never walk in darkness,  
but will have the light of life.” (John 8:12, NIV)

### FELLOWSHIP GREETING

+ PREPARATION +

#### OPENING HYMN #503

“O Day Full of Grace”

O day full of grace that now we see  
Appearing on earth’s horizon,  
Bring light from our god that we may be  
Replete in His joy this season.  
God sine for us now in this dark place;  
Your name on our hearts emblazon.

O day full of grace, O blessed time,  
Our Lord on the earth arriving;  
Then came to the world that light sublime,  
Great joy for us all retrieving;  
For Jesus all mortals did embrace,  
All darkness and shame removing.

For Christ bore our sins, and not His own,  
When He on the cross was hanging;  
And then He arose and moved the stone  
That we, unto Him belonging,  
Might join with angelic hosts to raise  
Our voices in endless singing.

God came to us then at Pentecost,  
His Spirit new life revealing,  
That we might no more from Him be lost,  
All darkness for us dispelling.  
His flame will the mark of sin efface  
And bring to us all His healing.

When we on that final journey go  
That Christ is for us preparing,  
We’ll gather in song, our hearts aglow,  
All joy of the heavens sharing,  
And walk in the light of God’s own place,  
With angels His name adoring.

(Rise)

### INVOCATION

Pastor: In the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

### OPENING SENTENCES *Psalm 50:2, 3, 6*

Pastor: Out of Zion, the perfection of beauty,

**People: God shines forth.**

Pastor: Our God comes;

**People: He does not keep silence;**

Pastor: The heavens declare His righteousness,

**People: for God Himself is judge!**

### CONFESSION AND ABSOLUTION

Pastor: O almighty God, merciful Father,

**People: I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto you all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended you and justly deserved your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray you of your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

Pastor: Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the + Son and of the Holy Spirit.

**People: Amen.**

## **HYMN OF PRAISE**

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**Refrain** *This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.*

Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain,  
whose blood set us free to be people of God. *Refrain*

Power, riches, wisdom, and strength, and honor, blessing, and glory are His. *Refrain*

Sing with all the people of God, and join in the hymn of all creation:

Blessing, honor, glory, and might be to God and the Lamb forever. Amen. *Refrain*

For the Lamb who was slain has begun His reign. Alleluia.  
This is the feast of victory for our God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

## **SALUTATION & PRAYER OF THE DAY**

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

**People: And also with you.**

Pastor: Let us pray. O God, in the glorious transfiguration of your beloved Son, you confirmed the mysteries of the faith by the testimony of Moses and Elijah. In the voice that came from the bright cloud, you wonderfully foreshowed our adoption by grace. Mercifully make us co-heirs with the King in His glory and bring us to the fullness of our inheritance in heaven; through the same Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

(Be seated)

**+ WORD +**

**OLD TESTAMENT READING** *2 Kings 2:1–12* (Elijah is taken up into heaven.)

When the LORD was about to take Elijah up to heaven in a whirlwind, Elijah and Elisha were on their way from Gilgal. Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went down to Bethel. The company of the prophets at Bethel came out to Elisha and asked, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master from you today?" "Yes, I know," Elisha replied, "but do not speak of it." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here, Elisha; the LORD has sent me to Jericho." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So they went to Jericho. The company of the prophets at Jericho went up to Elisha and asked him, "Do you know that

the LORD is going to take your master from you today?" "Yes, I know," he replied, "but do not speak of it." Then Elijah said to him, "Stay here; the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." And he replied, "As surely as the LORD lives and as you live, I will not leave you." So the two of them walked on. Fifty men of the company of the prophets went and stood at a distance, facing the place where Elijah and Elisha had stopped at the Jordan. Elijah took his cloak, rolled it up and struck the water with it. The water divided to the right and to the left, and the two of them crossed over on dry ground. When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "Tell me, what can I do for you before I am taken from you?" "Let me inherit a double portion of your spirit," Elisha replied. "You have asked a difficult thing," Elijah said, "yet if you see me when I am taken from you, it will be yours--otherwise not." As they were walking along and talking together, suddenly a chariot of fire and horses of fire appeared and separated the two of them, and Elijah went up to heaven in a whirlwind. Elisha saw this and cried out, "My father! My father! The chariots and horsemen of Israel!" And Elisha saw him no more. Then he took hold of his own clothes and tore them apart.

**EPISTLE** *2 Corinthians 3:12–18; 4:1–6* ("Being transformed into His likeness")

Therefore, since we have such a hope, we are very bold. We are not like Moses, who would put a veil over his face to keep the Israelites from gazing at it while the radiance was fading away. But their minds were made dull, for to this day the same veil remains when the old covenant is read. It has not been removed, because only in Christ is it taken away. Even to this day when Moses is read, a veil covers their hearts. But whenever anyone turns to the Lord, the veil is taken away. Now the Lord is the Spirit, and where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is freedom. And we, who with unveiled faces all reflect the Lord's glory, are being transformed into his likeness with ever-increasing glory, which comes from the Lord, who is the Spirit. Therefore, since through God's mercy we have this ministry, we do not lose heart. Rather, we have renounced secret and shameful ways; we do not use deception, or do we distort the word of God. On the contrary, by setting forth the truth plainly we commend ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. The god of this age has blinded the minds of unbelievers, so that they cannot see the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. For we do not preach ourselves, but Jesus Christ as Lord, and ourselves as your servants for Jesus' sake. For God, who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," made his light shine in our hearts to give us the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Christ.

**5:00 CHOIR ANTHEM**

*"This Is My Beloved Son"* Pepper Choplin

10:30 SOLO

*"Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring"*

(Rise)

**HOLY GOSPEL** *Mark 9:2–9* (Jesus is transfigured.)

After six days Jesus took Peter, James and John with him and led them up a high mountain, where they were all alone. There he was transfigured before them. His clothes became dazzling white, whiter than anyone in the world could bleach them. And there appeared before them Elijah and Moses, who were talking with Jesus. Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here. Let us put up three shelters--one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah." (He did not know what to say, they were so frightened.) Then a cloud appeared and enveloped them, and a voice came from the cloud: "This is my Son, whom I love. Listen to him!" Suddenly, when they looked around, they no longer saw anyone with them except Jesus. As they were coming down the mountain, Jesus gave them orders not to tell anyone what they had seen until the Son of Man had risen from the dead.

(Be seated)

**CHILDREN’S MESSAGE**

**SERMON HYMN #414 “ ’Tis Good, Lord, to Be Here”**

’Tis good, Lord, to be here! Thy glory fills the night;  
Thy face and garments, like the sun, Shine with un-borrowed light.

“Tis good, Lord, to be here, Thy beauty to behold  
Where Moses and Elijah stand, Thy messengers of old.

Fulfiller of the past And hope of things to be,  
We hail Thy body glorified And our redemption see.

Before we taste of death, We see Thy kingdom come;  
We long to hold the vision bright And make this hill our home.

’Tis good, Lord, to be here! Yet we may not remain;  
But since Thou bidst us leave the mount, Come with us to the plain.

**SERMON**

*“Just One Voice to Hear”*

Mark 9:2-9

(Rise)

**APOSTLES’ CREED** *(found on the inside back cover of the hymnal)*

(Be seated)

**OFFERING** As your offering is collected, **please sign our attendance book** located at the end of the pew. If you are a visitor, please leave your address and phone. After you are finished, please pass the book along to others in your pew, and return the book to the center aisle. You may check the register to see the names of those to greet after the service.

(Rise)

**PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**

Pastor: Let us pray for all God’s children and all people in their time of need.

After each petition:

Pastor: Lord, in your mercy,

**People: hear our prayer.**

At the conclusion of the prayers:

Pastor: through Jesus Christ, our Lord.

**People: Amen.**

**THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**+ SACRAMENT +**

**THE WORDS OF OUR LORD**

**THE PEACE OF THE LORD**

Pastor: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

**People: Amen.**

**AGNUS DEI**

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Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; have mercy on us.

Lamb of God, You take away the sin of the world; grant us peace.

(Be seated)

**DISTRIBUTION** Those guests who desire to commune who are members of another LCMS congregation may do so; if you are coming from another church background, please see the pastor or an elder first.

**“Once High Upon the Mountain”**

Once high upon the mountain, The Father’s will made known;  
“This is My Son, beloved,” All sins He will atone.  
“Take heed and listen to Him, He is the chosen One.”  
The plan for our redemption, Comes through His only Son.

Once high upon the mountain, The Savior’s plan made clear;  
While they were deeply praying, His brightness did appear,  
His face was changed before them, His clothes as white as snow,  
So we might fully trust Him And Him as Savior know.

Once high upon the mountain, The men fell down in fear;  
“Let us make here three shelters,” To keep Your glory near  
“Get up,” said our Lord Jesus, “And do not be afraid,  
This day should be kept silent, Until the day I’m raised.”

Once high upon the mountain, Our Savior’s love revealed;  
He is the Lord’s anointed, And by His wounds we’re healed.  
This day we saw His glory, It shone bright as the sun,  
Revealed for our assurance, That our salvation’s won.

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**HYMN #413 “O Wondrous Type! O Vision Fair”**

O wondrous type! O vision fair Of glory that the Church may share,  
Which Christ upon the mountain shows, Where brighter than the sun He glows!

With Moses and Elijah nigh The incarnate Lord holds converse high;  
And from the cloud the Holy One Bears record to the only Son.

With shining face and bright array Christ deigns to manifest today  
What glory shall be theirs above Who joy in God with perfect love.

And faithful hearts are raised on high By this great vision’s mystery,  
For which in joyful strains we raise The voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

7 continued

O Father, with the eternal Son And Holy Spirit ever one,  
We pray Thee, bring us by Thy grace To see Thy glory face to face.

**HYMN #821 “Alleluia! Sing to Jesus”**

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:  
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation Has redeemed us by His blood.”

Alleluia! Not as orphans Are we left in sorrow now;  
Alleluia! He is near us: Faith believes, nor questions how.  
Though the cloud from sight received Him When the forty days were o’er,  
Shall our hearts forget His promise: “I am with you evermore”?

Alleluia! Bread of heaven, Here on earth our food, our stay;  
Alleluia! Here the sinful Flee to You from day to day.  
Intercessor, Friend of sinners, Earth’s Redeemer, hear our plea  
Where the songs of all the sinless Sweep across the crystal sea.

Alleluia! King eternal, Lord omnipotent we own;  
Alleluia! Born of Mary, Earth Your footstool, heav’n Your throne.  
As within the veil You entered, Robed in flesh, our great High Priest,  
Here on earth both priest and victim In the Eucharistic feast.

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus; His the scepter, His the throne;  
Alleluia! His the triumph, His the victory alone.  
Hark! The songs of peaceful Zion Thunder like a mighty flood:  
“Jesus out of ev’ry nation Has redeemed us by His blood.”

**COMMON DISMISSAL**

(Rise)

**POST-COMMUNION THANKSGIVING**

Pastor: Dear Father, rejoicing in the brightness of your glory revealed in the face of Jesus, your Son, we thank and praise you for feeding us with His true body and blood. Grant that we, with unveiled faces, may continue to behold through your Word and Sacraments the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world; that we may be thus filled with the Holy

Spirit, and that we may share your love with others; through Jesus Christ, our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

**People: Amen.**

### **BENEDICTION**

Pastor: The LORD bless you and keep you. The LORD make His face shine on you and be gracious to you. The LORD look upon you with favor and + give you peace.

**People: Amen.**

### **CLOSING HYMN #417 “Alleluia, Song of Gladness”**

*5:00 ONLY Choir sings stanzas 1-3 Congregation joins in for stanza 4  
(5:00 Sung to tune: LSB #621)*

Alleluia, song of gladness, Voice of joy that cannot die;  
Alleluia is the anthem Ever raised by choirs on high;  
In the house of God abiding Thus they sing eternally.

Alleluia, thou re-soundest, True Jerusalem and free;  
Alleluia, joyful mother, All thy children sing with thee,  
But by Babylon’s sad waters Mourning exiles now are we.

Alleluia cannot always Be our song while here below;  
Alleluia, our transgressions Make us for a while for-go;  
For the solemn time is coming When our tears for sin must flow.

Therefore in our hymns we pray Thee, Grant us, blessed Trinity,  
At the last to keep Thine Easter With Thy faithful saints on high;  
There to Thee forever singing Alleluia joyfully.

Preacher	Pastor Harold Bender
Liturgist	Pastor Gregg Stanton
Lectors	Dalen Heinzen, Grant Gundersen, Jodi Drew
Acolytes	Nik Mueller, Thomas Quigley, Brian Schaber
Organist	Roger Gottschalk
Choir Director	Nancy Hoelke
Soloist	Pastor Hinz
Music Coordinator	Kim Woller

### **Call Committee and Special Voters' Assembly**

The call committee has been meeting for the past couple of months and has completed the initial interviews. The members of the Church Council are calling a Special Voters' Assembly meeting on **Sunday, February 15, at 9:15 a.m.**, between the early and late services. Two candidates will be put before the assembly for consideration: A.J. Amling and Christopher Cody. Biographical information sheets will be available at the welcome center and in the elevator room. Please continue to pray for the Lord to lead us to call the person that He wants to lead our school in the future. **Please plan to attend the Voters' Assembly THIS SUNDAY.**



### **40 Days of Sacrificial Giving**

The Lenten season provides an opportunity to reflect on God’s great sacrifice for us through the cross and give thanks for all we have received from His hand. It is also a time of self-denial and self-sacrifice.

This year, St. Paul’s is offering Adult members and Families a \$1 a day Lenten self –denial folder. The sacrifice is just one dollar a day for 40 days, with all the proceeds from these folders going to assist the ministry at Emmanuel Lutheran Church of the Deaf (Located in West Allis on 98<sup>th</sup> & Lincoln Ave). The folders are available in the Narthex from the ushers after each service this weekend. A devotional sheet is inserted to help grow your spiritual life through this activity. Blessings on your Lenten journey.

Kim Woller